

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INRE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1185

S E C R E T MOSCOW 3902

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PARM, US, UR

SUBJECT: TTBT/PNE NEGOTIATIONS: US STATEMENT AT 43RD RESTRICTED MEET-
ING, 3/15/76 ROUND VI - TTBT/PNE DELEGATION MSG NO. 129

1. US STATEMENT MADE AT 43RD RESTRICTED MEETING, 15 MARCH 1976,
FOLLOWS.
BEGIN TEXT.
MR. MINISTER:

OUR MEETING OF MARCH 12 WAS REQUESTED BY ME TO ASK YOU TO EXPLAIN
PARAGRAPH 9 OF ARTICLE VI OF YOUR PROPOSED PROTOCOL
TEXT IN LIGHT OF OUR MEETING FEBRUARY 19. ON MARCH 12, I
EXPRESSED TO YOU MY SURPRISE AND DISAPPOINTMENT AT YOUR
STATEMENT THAT THE SOVIET POSITION PERMITS INDIVIDUAL EXPLOSIVES
WITH YIELDS IN EXCESS OF 150 KILOTONS.

OVER TWO MONTHS AGO THE U.S. POSITION THAT INDIVIDUAL
EXPLOSIVES OVER 150 KILOTONS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE, WAS, AS
YOU KNOW, MADE CLEAR TO MINISTER GROMYKO BY SECRETARY
KISSINGER, WHO EXPLAINED THAT THE ONLY WAY TO HANDLE THE
PROBLEM WOULD BE TO DISCUSS IT AGAIN IN THE CONTEXT OF
THE FIVE-YEAR REVIEW OF THE AGREEMENT.

I HAVE REPORTED OUR CONVERSATION OF LAST FRIDAY TO MY AUTHORITIES,
WHO HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR AMAZEMENT AT YOUR REMARKS.

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I AM INSTRUCTED TO INFORM YOU THAT THE US GOVERNMENT
WILL NOT AGREE TO INCLUSION IN THIS AGREEMENT OF A PROVISION
PERMITTING THE USE OF INDIVIDUAL EXPLOSIVE DEVICES
OVER 150 KILOTONS UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES WHATSOEVER.

THIS IS NOT A TACTICAL NEGOTIATING POSITION, BUT IS A
CONDITION PRECEDENT TO THE CONCLUSION OF A PNE AGREEMENT,
AND I AM INSTRUCTED TO STATE CATEGORICALLY THAT THERE WILL
BE NO CHANGE IN THIS POSITION ACHIEVED BY APPEAL TO ANY
HIGHER AUTHORITY.

IN VIEW OF THIS, PARA 9 OF THE TEXT PRESENTED BY
THE SOVIET SIDE LAST FRIDAY IS UNACCEPTABLE TO US. THE US
WILL HAVE NOTHING FURTHER TO SAY ON THIS ISSUE AND, THEREFORE,
I SUGGEST THAT WE JOIN OUR DELEGATIONS AND PROCEED WITH THE
USEFUL WORK BEFORE US.
END TEXT. STOESEL

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NNN

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